

## HQT Licensure & Content Knowledge Requirements

The federal definition of a "highly qualified teacher" (HQT) in a core academic subject is one who holds at least a bachelor's degree, is appropriately licensed for the assignment and demonstrates subject matter competence (i.e., content knowledge) in the core academic subject(s) she/he teaches. Licensure and content knowledge requirements are provided below for:

- [\*\*Classroom Teachers\*\*](#)

This document details the HQT licensure and content knowledge requirements for classroom teachers of core academic subjects. As defined by NCLB, the core academic subjects/areas are: English language arts (including ESL), math, science, social studies (i.e., history, economics, geography, and civics and government), reading, foreign languages, art, music and the generalist endorsement areas of elementary education and early childhood education (grades K-3 only).

- [\*\*Special Educators\*\*](#)

Special education is not a core content area according to NCLB. However, special educators who provide "primary instruction" in one or more of the core content areas of English language arts/reading, math, science and social studies (i.e., history, economics, geography, and civics and government) will need to meet HQT requirements for the core areas they teach. The HQT requirements for those special educators who must meet them are described in the above document.

- [\*\*Definitions of Special Education Instructional Arrangements and Their Implications for HQT Requirements\*\*](#)

Use this link to view a definitions sheet which describes the various kinds of special education instructional arrangements and how each pertains to HQT.

- [\*\*Alternative Program Teachers\*\*](#)

Teachers of alternative, non-special education programs who provide instruction in English language arts, math, science or social studies (i.e., history, economics, geography, and civics and government) will need to meet HQT requirements. "Alternative Programs," as the term is used here, are those in which students receive all or the majority of their instruction in the above subject areas in a program that is different from or separate from the regular school program. This document details the appropriate endorsements for alternative program assignments and the required content knowledge for those assignments.

- [\*\*Providers of Supplemental Reading and/or Math Services\*\*](#)

This chart describes state licensure and HQT content knowledge requirements for providers of supplemental reading and/or math services.

- [Vermont HOUSSE \\* Requirements for Experienced Classroom Teachers](#)

This document describes the HQT licensure and content knowledge requirements for "regular" classroom teachers of core academic areas who meet one of two conditions:

- Became licensed in Vermont and acquired the endorsement being reviewed prior to July 1, 2006 AND have 12 or more months of professional experience as an educator, OR
- Endorsement being reviewed was issued as a "Level II" by the Licensing Office under the terms of the NASDTEC interstate reciprocity agreement.

Classroom teachers of core academic areas who do not meet either of these requirements must use the chart entitled, HQT Licensure & Content Knowledge Requirements for Classroom Teacher Assignments.

\* HOUSSE: High, Objective, Uniform State Standard of Evaluation